

# Broadening horizons

By Bella Clements and Loren Isaac (CHACE Year 8)

STUDENTS in the Chatham High School's Chatham Curriculum Extension (CHACE) Class from Year 8 have experienced many different activities this term both within the school and out in the community.

These opportunities have helped students in ways that couldn't be achieved without such a program. Mrs Beckett, Head Teacher English, said "This is a wonderful opportunity for students to challenge and extend their learning"

CHACE class students from Years 7 and 8 have recently gone on an excursion to the Manning Education Centre in Taree to learn about the different opportunities available to them after high school.

Whilst there they experienced first-hand the resources available to students undertaking medicine and hospitality courses. They also attended a lecture in which some undergraduates from the University of Newcastle talked about their paths to University, the different courses available, clubs and ambitions.

This experience helped to broaden the horizon for students as it gave them a taste of educational opportunities available after high school. "This excursion was really good for students considering University," Loren Isaac said.



A recent project completed by the students of the CHACE group was the Manning River Times Project.

The students were split up into three teams with each team having its own purpose and tasks. Students were trusted to manage their own time, and meet deadlines.

The teams were sales, design, and journalist/photography teams. The sales team were involved in selling the ads to local businesses. The design team was in charge of designing ads according to clients' specifications, whilst journalists wrote articles about topics of their choice.

The project demonstrated how people care for others within Chatham High School and the

local community. This has helped develop communication and teamwork skills, and increased students' self-esteem. "Through initiatives like the Manning River Times Project students gain hands-on, real life experience and raise funds for charities at the same time," Stage 4 Deputy, Mr Presland said. "It has truly given students a taste of real life in the business of media."

A valuable initiative, the CHACE program has inspired and pushed students to achieve their best. Students have progressed greatly in this short time and have been given numerous opportunities to excel. Such a beneficial program establishes a solid learning foundation in high school.